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The Warehouse: Reading Response 1

The Cloud, venerable and a titan in the package delivery business owned by Gibson Wells, a dying a man with pancreatic cancer having only a year to spend his remaining days. Along with the story, Paxton, a former CEO, who holds deep contempt for his biggest client, the Cloud company, after his business went bust due to the discount harassment of the Cloud and pulling the plug on their business relationship. Also, Zinnia, a secretive, snobbish Latina woman, claiming to be a laid-off math teacher, who doubles as “corporate espionage” and was hired to infiltrate the Cloud for alleged illicit business practices.

At a young age, Gibson Wells demonstrated extreme interest in flying drones as a new way of delivering packages to solve traffic and air pollution issues. With his brother-like business partner Ray Carson, despite all odds, they successfully built the Cloud from nothing into an empire. Now, he discovered he has terminal cancer that put his life in an hourglass and the only thing he wants to do now is sharing about his life through writing blogs. After all, a great personage as his character would naturally seek of leaving a footprint as he departs.

Paxton, after his company failed, transitioned to become a prison guard far too long than he expected to. Then, due to the vicious cycle the current economy is in, he was forced to swallow his pride and took a shot at the Cloud for a temporary solace hoping to land anything other than a security position but ended up as one anyway.

Zinnia, as she struggles to infiltrate the heart of the company, experienced the implicit work discrimination in a diverse environment as she met Miguel, a bisexual Latino married to a german man, seemingly stuck toiling away in the same position for years in the MotherCloud partly chalking it up to gender discrimination. Zinnia’s ulterior motive is still unclear.

The fictional empire of a company, the Cloud, immediately reminded me of the Amazon, a dot-com leading multi-billion dollar global e-commerce company owned by a man who has a similar dream of the protagonist Gibson Wells. Their vision of delivering packages around the world, not just by ground, but also through the vast untapped resources we have which is the sky through drone technology.

Works Cited

Hart, Rob. *The Warehouse: A Novel*, Crown Publishing Group, 2019